

From: Jack L. Levy
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to voice my thoughts on the proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Justice Department. I believe that this litigation should not have been brought forth by the Justice Department, in the first place. There are many Americans who seriously question whether Microsoft has in fact broken any laws that would warrant a suit that has lasted for three years, all the while causing substantial financial hardship to the corporation and its many investors.

The federal government should leave Microsoft alone, and pursue more important matters that are affecting our nation currently. Although this company may have made mistakes during its rapid growth, no one can question the substantial contribution that Microsoft has made to the computer industry. There are many people who believe that the operating systems created by Microsoft may very well be the chief reason for the viability of one of our largest and most successful industries.

I believe that the settlement that has been reached is both fair and reasonable to everyone involved. Microsoft will be making numerous changes with its software and business practices. For example, some of the changes include but are not limited to the following: better relations with computer makers and software developers, internal interface disclosure, and a three-person technical committee to oversee Microsoft's compliance with the settlement.

The recession has had a devastating effect on both government and industry. Many private investors have suffered non-recoverable losses, especially those who have invested in the technology sector. It is extremely important that the technology industry be allowed to concentrate on improving business, and not defending what many feel to be frivolous lawsuits. It is in the best interests of everyone involved to see this settlement enacted as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Jack L. Levy

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